

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

from the council

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MEMOS	The following memorandums are available from the Legislative Council office: "Summary of 2005-07 Centers of Excellence Applications - Round 3" (Budget Section); "School District General Fund Levies and Limitations" (Finance and Taxation); "Regulation of Acupuncture - Options" (Health Care); "State Security Freeze Laws" (Judicial Process).
BRANCHING OUT	With the Chief Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court, Representative Kim Koppelman co-chairs a national working group whose goal is to improve the relationship between the states' executive, judicial, and legislative branches. Through the auspices of the Council of State Governments, this interbranch body has conducted meetings aimed at reducing tensions between the three branches by providing a neutral nonpartisan forum for discussion.
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS	Representative Robin Weisz is North Dakota's Toll Fellow for the 2006 session of classes held in Lexington, Kentucky. Each year (this is the 20th) 10 state leaders from each of the Council of State Government's four regions attend a six-day program addressing contemporary state policy issues and emerging trends. This year includes a crisis management session using the potential avian flu epidemic as its focus. The Toll Fellowship Program, open to officials from all three branches of state governments, bears the name of the late Colorado State Senator, Henry Wolcott Toll, who founded the Council of State Governments in 1933.
AT THE TOP OF HIS GAME	At its 2006 convention this spring, the North Dakota Newspaper Association presented Senator John M. Andrist with its Pinnacle Award for his significant contribution to the organization's Education Foundation, which provides grants to North Dakota students seeking careers in journalism.